officer due to non-submission of the mandatory, non-employment certificate inspite of orders to this effect issued by the Principal, Kendriya Vidyalaya Barkuhi and Assistant Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Regional Office) Bhopal. However, there is no such case under Jabalpur region.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is mandatory to institute Disciplinary Proceedings against an employee who has been placed under suspension. The subsistence allowance has not been paid to the teacher in question because of non submission of the required non-employment certificate which is mandatory for Subsistence Allowance claim.

Exploitation of Women

†222. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes formulated by Government for strengthening financial position of women of the country, particularly rural women, by providing employment opportunities and preventing exploitation against them; and

(b) the details of necessary action taken by Government for effective implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The details of the schemes are given in the statement (*See* below).

(b) The Department is regularly monitoring the implementation of the schemes through periodic progress reports, review meetings, visits and inspections and monitoring and evaluation studies.

Statement

Women specific Schemes of Department of Women and Children

1. Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP)

This Programme launched in 1987, seeks to provide updated skills and new knowledge to poor and assetless women in the traditional sectors, such as, agriculture, animal husbandry, dairying, fisheries, handlooms, handicrafts, khadi

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and village industries, sericulture, social forestry and wasteland development for enhancing their productivity and income generation. This would enhance and broaden their employment opportunities, including self-employment and development of entrepreneurial skills. Women beneficiaries are organised into viable and cohesive groups or co-operatives. A comprehensive package of services, such as, extension, inputs, market linkages etc. are provided besides linkage with credit for transfer of assets.

2. Women's Economic Programme (NORAD)

This programme was launched in 1982-83 with assistance from Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). Under this programme, financial assistance is given to Women's Development Corporations, Public Sector Corporations, autonomous bodies, and voluntary organisations, to train poor women, mostly in non-traditional trades and to ensure their employment in these areas. Some of the trades are computer programming, electronics, watch assembling, radio and television repairs, garment making, secretarial practices, community health work, embroidery, weaving, etc. Financial assistance is given to the grantee organisation for hiring of training-cum -production sheds, training costs, machinery and equipment, stipend to the trainees and remuneration for the trainers.

3. Condensed Course of Education for Adult Women

The Scheme of Condensed Course of Education for Women was started by the Central Social Welfare Board during the year 1958 with the objective of providing basic education and skills to needy women and also to benefit widows, destitute deserted women and also those belonging to economically backward classes. Under the Scheme, grant is given to voluntary organisations for conducting courses of two-year duration for preparing candidates for primary, middle and matric level examinations and one-year duration for matric failed candidates.

4. Vocational Training Programme

Based on the national policy on skill development for girls and women the Central Social Welfare Board had started the Scheme of the Vocational Training Programme in the year 1975 to train women in marketable trades and also to upgrade their skills in order to enable and empower them to access remunerative employment opportunities, which will enhance their self-confidence and self-esteem. The Training Programme is organised in rural, tribal, backward, urban slum areas through Voluntary organisations in the traditional and non-

traditional trades like Computer Training, Community Health Workers, Paramedical Vocations, Typing and Shorthand, to enable them to get employment in Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Corporations, Autonomous Bodies, Private Sector etc. Special emphasis is also laid on implementing this Programme in After Care-Homes, Women Cell of Jails and other custodian institutions. The organisations are identified through State Social Welfare Advisory Boards in all States/U.Ts. And implementation of the training programme is monitored through field machinery. The skills of traditional artisans are also being upgraded to provide opportunities for self-employment. The Scheme has been instrumental in providing job opportunities to a large number of needy women and thereby enhancing their socio-economic status.

5. Awareness Generation Projects for Rural & Poor Women

The Awareness Generation Programme aims to identify the needs of rural and poor women and to generate awareness among them about their status in the family and society and to activate them to work for achieving their rights and to deal with social issues. Since 1993-94, special emphasis has been given to participation of women in Panchayati Raj institutions and their role in promoting national integration and communal harmony. Some of the schemes of the Department of Women & Child Development such as the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh and the Mahila Samridhi Yojana have also been included in this Scheme to motivate rural women towards self-reliance. Relevant topics are taken up in a camp of 8 days duration for 25 beneficiaries, which are followed by 2 days for detailed evaluation of the camp. The assessment of the impact of the camp on the beneficiaries and the community is done within 6 months on completion of the camp. A sum of Rs.10,000/- is given to an organisation for one Awareness Generation Project. Training of organisers is a pre-requisite condition for organising the camps for which a number of training centres in every state have been identified by the National Standing Committee and CSWB. The expense of Rs.1000/- per trainee is provided by the Central Social Welfare Board.

6. Socio- economic Programme

The Socio-Economic Programme of the Central Social Welfare Board endeavors to provide employment opportunities on full or part time basis to destitute women, widows, deserted and the physically handicapped, to supplement their meager family income. Besides, women entrepreneurs are encouraged to exhibit and sell their income. Besides, women entrepreneurs are encouraged to exhibit and sell their products through Exhibition-cum-Melas

organised by State Boards at Distt. level. The Central Social Welfare has two different types of schemes of assistance under this Programme as follows:

- **Agro - based Units**

  The Central Social Welfare Board assists voluntary organisatons for setting up agro-based units like dairy, poultry, piggery, goatery etc. for poor and needy women. However, for the past few years' proposals for Agro-based Units were not considered.

- **Production Units**

  Voluntary organisations are encouraged to set up Production Units, which can provide employment on full or part time basis to women. Project proposals should be cleared by District Industrial Centres, KVICs etc. who look into viability of the projects. A grant is provided by the Central Social Welfare Board to facilitate setting up a Production Unit by the grantee institution.

7. Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities on Women

The scheme of assistance to voluntary organizations for Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities on Women was started in 1982. Under this scheme, universities, colleges, women studies centres, institutions of higher learning and voluntary organisations are given financial assistance for undertaking various activities such as production and publication of the educative journals, articles, books, conducting surveys and studies on violence against women, awards to best films, short plays, short stories, etc., translation of such material from one language to another language, holding seminars, conferences, meetings, exhibitions, film festivals etc. holding of training camps for social workers including Govt. functionaries, legal literacy camps/para legal training camps, use of traditional media such as street plays, puppetry etc. organising Women Development Centres in educational institutes and legal and counselling services to women prisoners etc.

8. Rural Women's Development and Empowement Project (Swa-Shakti)

The Swa-Shakti Project, earlier known as Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project, was sanctioned on 16-10-1998 as a Centrally-sponsored Project for a period of 5 years with an estimated outlay of Rs.186.21 crore. In addition, an amount of Rs.5 crore is being provided during the project period, for facilitating the setting up, in the project states, of Revolving Funds for giving interest-bearing loans to beneficiary groups primarily during their initial formative stage.

9. Integrated Women's Empowerment Programme (Swayamsidha)

Swayamsidha is an Integrated scheme for women's empowerment. It is based on formation of women into Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and aims at holistic empowerment of women through awareness generation, economic empowerment and convergence of various schemes.

The vision of Swayamsidha is to mobilize and develop empowered women who will:

- Demand their rights from family, community and government;
- Have increased access to, and control over, material, social and political resources;
- Have enhanced awareness and improved skills ; and
- Be able to raise issues of common concern through mobilization and networking.

As a result of Swyamsidha, the nature of changes envisaged are expected to result in self-reliant and sustainable institutions, which priorities women's needs and interests and bring about their social and economic empowerment. These institutions should be ready in the last year to take over the role of implementers to ensure complete sustainability of the approach even after completion of Swyamsidha.

10. Women in Difficult Circumstances (Swadhar)

The scheme has been designed with a flexible and innovative approach to cater to the requirement of various types of women in distress in diverse situations under different conditions. The scheme provides shelter, counselling and training for women in difficult circumstances who do not have any social and economic support.

11. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

The National Credit Fund for Women (Rashtriya Mahila Kosh) was set up on 30th March, 1993 with corpus fund of Rs.31 crores with the major objective of meeting the credit needs of poor women, particularly in the informal sector.

The RMK set up under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 is managed by a Governing Board comprising 16 members. The Minister of State for Women and Child Development is the Chairperson of the Kosh. Besides extending micro

finance, RMK has also launched a scheme to support the formation and stabilization of Women's Self help Groups (SHGs). Under this scheme, RMK gives an interest free loan upto Rs. One lakh for formation and stabilization of 25 SHGs. The loan is convertible into grant on fulfillment of certain conditions.

Women Specific Schemes of other Ministries/Departments

Ministry of Rural Development

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

The scheme of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) came into force with effect from 1.4.1999. Under this programme, the erstwhile programmes viz. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITA), Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) and Millions Well Scheme (MWC) were integrated. This is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self-employment such as organisation of the poor into self-help groups, training, credit, technology and infrastructure. SGSY has a provision of covering 40% women beneficiaries as Swamrojgaries. The scheme mainly aims to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line in three years by providing them income generating assets through a mix of bank credit and Government subsidy. This programme is implemented through DRDA and with the active involvement of Panchayati Raj institutions, banks the line departments and the NGOs.

Ministry of Labour

1. Women's Vocational Training Programme

Launched in 1977, National Vocational Training Institute (NVTI) for Women was set up at NOIDA; and Regional Vocational Training Institutes for Women (RVTIs) have been set up at Mumbai, Bangalore, Trivandrum, Hissar, Calcutta, Tura and Munnar, for offering skill training facilities to women so as to enable them find employment in industry as semi-skilled/skilled labourers; or instructors in vocational institutes; or engage in income generating activities/self - employment. Four new Regional Vocational Training Institutes for Women are also being set up with Work Bank assistance at Indore, Vadodara, Jaipur and Allahabad.

2. Grant-in-aid to the State Government

(i) Establishment of new ITIs for Women; and

(ii) Strengthening of new Women's ITIs.

The scheme aims to expand the Women's Vocational Training Programme both quantitatively and qualitatively, to meet the growing skilled and semi-skilled man power requirement for Industry/Service sector/domestic income generating industries and self employment. The scheme targets to expand the skill training facilities for women and to make the women employable in the industry as semi-skilled worker.

3. Vocational Rehabilitation of Women with Disabilities

The scheme aims to coordinate with various Government and non-government organisations to promote speedy rehabilitation of the disabled women by providing training, job and self-employment services. Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Handicapped, under the Government of India, Ministry of Labour are at 17 places. VRC at Vadodara is exclusively for women and the other Centres assist both men and women with disabilities.

Ministry of Science and Technology

1. Science and Technology for Women

The main objectives of the scheme are to promote research, development and adaptation of technology to improve the life, working conditions and opportunities of gainful employment of women, especially in rural areas, and to increase the contribution of women to science and technology and development.

Primary Education in Rural Areas

†223. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of education policies made so far since independence of the country, alongwith the recommendations made under the said policies, for imparting elementary education to all the children of rural areas;

(b) the details of necessary action taken by Government for implementing the said recommendations;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.